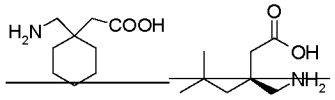
IN THE CLAIMS

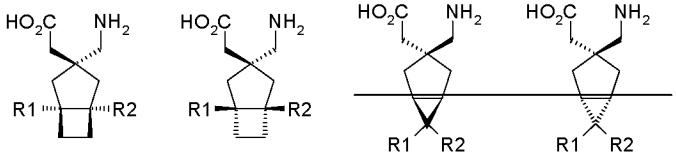
1. Cancelled.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein administration is on as needed basis.

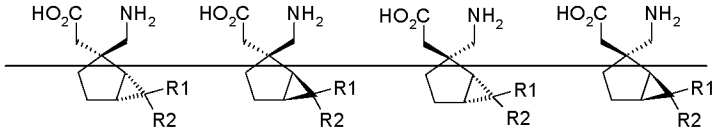
3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 8 where the alpha-2-delta ligand is selected from:



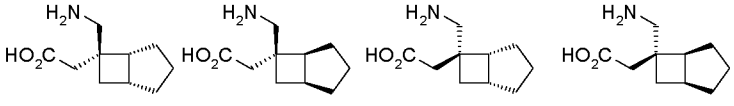
(I) (II)



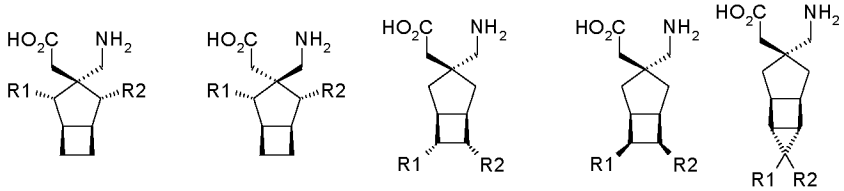
(III) (IV) (V) (VI)



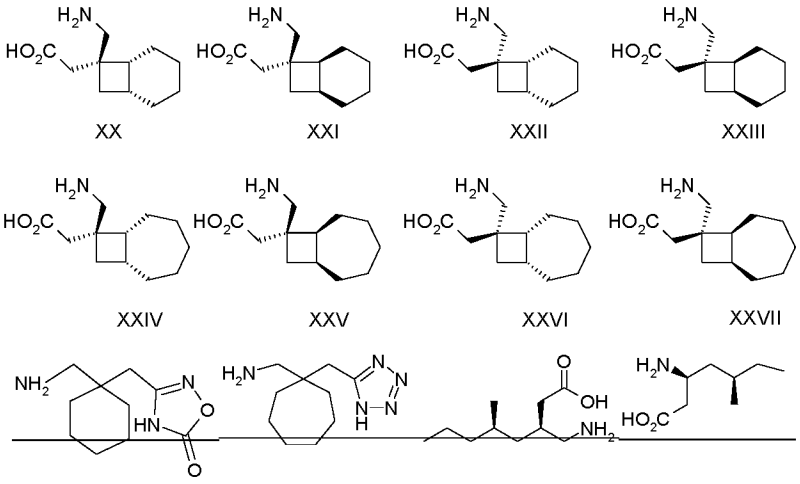
(VII) (VIII) (IX) (X)



(XI) (XII) (XIII) (XIV)



(XV) (XVI) (XVII) (XVIII) (XIX)



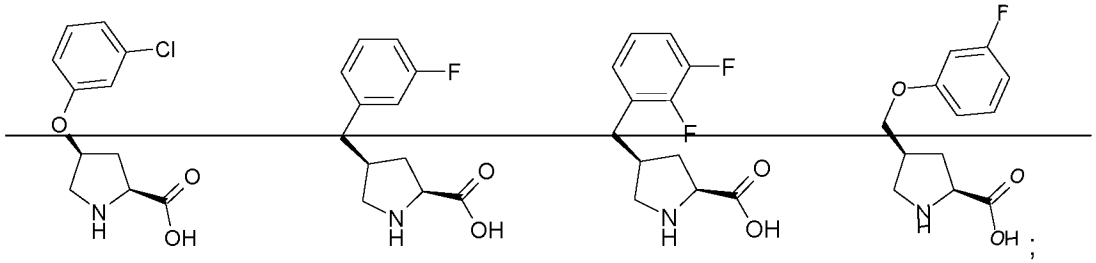
XX XXI XXII XXIII

XXIV XXV XXVI XXVII

(XXVIII) (XXIX) (XXX) (XXXI)

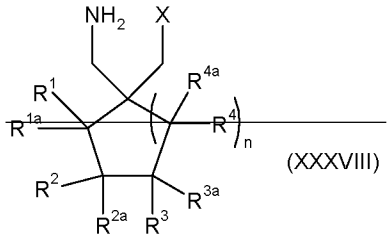
(XXXII) (XXXIII)

; or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, wherein R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from H, straight or branched alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of from 3-6 carbon atoms, phenyl and benzyl, subject to the proviso that, except in the case of a tricyclooctane compound of formula (XVIII), R^1 and R^2 are not simultaneously hydrogen~~;~~



XXXIV XXXV XXXVI XXXVII

~~compounds of formula (XXXVIII):~~



(XXXVIII)

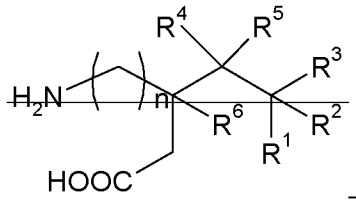
~~wherein X is a carboxylic acid or carboxylic acid bioisostere;~~

~~n is 0, 1 or 2; and~~

~~R^1, R^{1a}, R^2, R^{2a}, R^3, R^{3a}, R^4 and R^{4a} are independently selected from H and C_1-C_6 alkyl, or~~

~~R^1 and R^2 or R^2 and R^3 are taken together to form a C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl ring, which is optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

~~Compounds of formula (XXXIX):~~

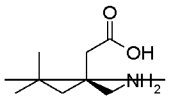


~~(XXXIX)~~

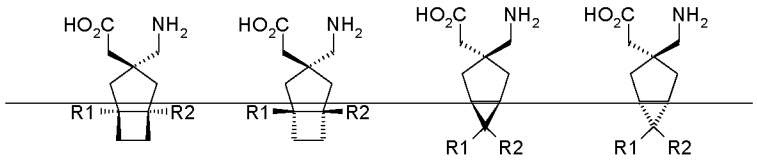
~~wherein:~~

~~n is 0 or 1, R^1 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)alkyl; R^2 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)alkyl; R^3 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)alkyl; R^4 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)alkyl; R^5 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)alkyl and R^2 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)alkyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof~~.

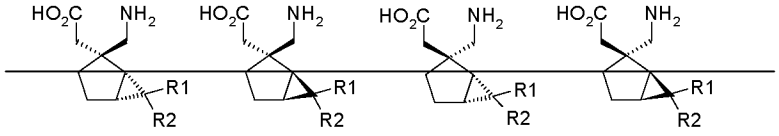
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 where the alpha-2-delta ligand is selected from:



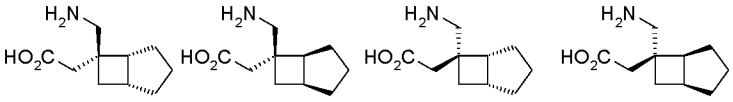
(II)



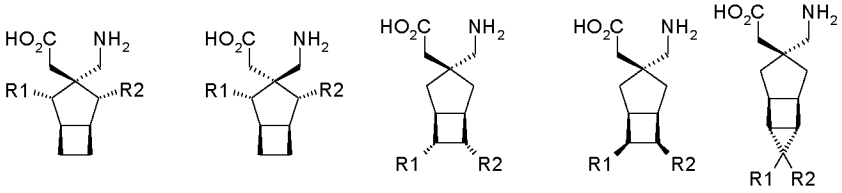
(III) (IV) (V) (VI)



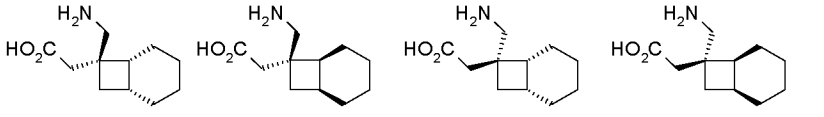
(VII) (VIII) (IX) (X)



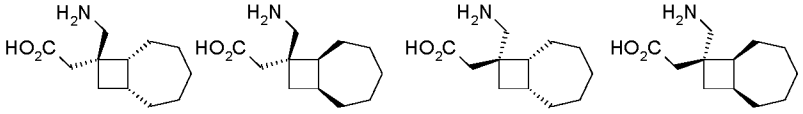
(XI) (XII) (XIII) (XIV)



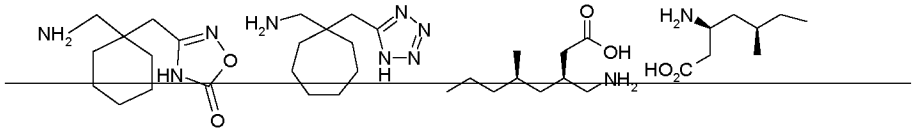
(XV) (XVI) (XVII) (XVIII) (XIX)



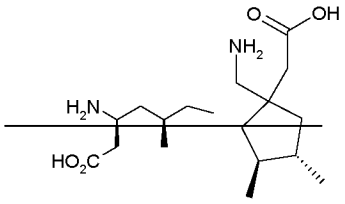
XX XXI XXII XXIII



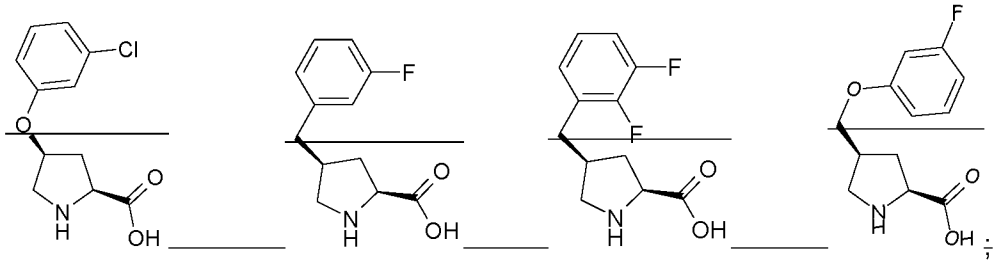
XXIV XXV XXVI XXVII



(XXVIII) (XXIX) (XXX) (XXXI)

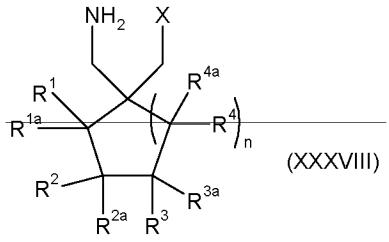


(XXXII) (XXXIII) ; or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, wherein R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from H, straight or branched alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of from 3-6 carbon atoms, phenyl and benzyl, subject to the proviso that, except in the case of a tricyclooctane compound of formula (XVIII), R^1 and R^2 are not simultaneously hydrogen~~; and~~



~~XXXIV XXXV XXXVI XXXVII~~

~~compounds of formula (XXXVIII):~~



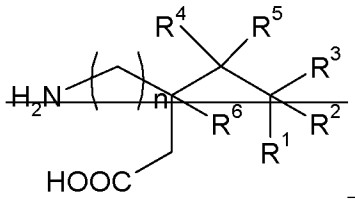
(XXXVIII)

~~wherein X is a carboxylic acid or carboxylic acid bioisostere;~~

~~n is 0, 1 or 2; and~~

~~R^1, R^{1a}, R^{2a}, R^{3a}, R^4 and R^{4a} are H and R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from H and methyl, or R^{1a}, R^{2a}, R^{3a} and R^{4a} are H and R^1 and R^2 or R^2 and R^3 are taken together to form a C_4-C_5 cycloalkyl ring, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;~~

~~Compounds of formula (XXXIX):~~



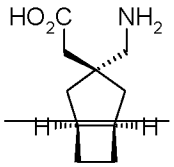
~~(XXXIX)~~

~~wherein:~~

~~R^1 is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or n-butyl, R^2 is methyl, R^3 – R^6 are hydrogen and n is 0 or 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein compounds are in the 3S,5R configuration~~.

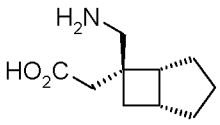
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 where the alpha-2-delta ligand is selected from:

~~pregabalin (II), (1α,3α,5α)(3-amino-methyl-bicyclo[3.2.0]hept-3-yl)-acetic acid (III'),~~



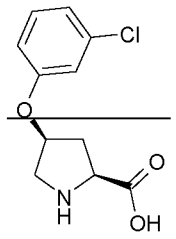
(III')

~~[(1R,5R,6S) 6-(Aminomethyl)bicyclo[3.2.0]hept-6-yl]acetic acid (XI); and~~



(XI)

~~(2S, 4S)-4-(3-Chloro-phenoxy)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (XXXIV)~~



~~(XXXIV)~~

6. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 8 where the alpha-2-delta ligand is [(1R,5R,6S)-6-(Aminomethyl)bicyclo[3.2.0]hept-6-yl]acetic acid or (2S, 4S)-4-(3-Chloro-phenoxy)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid.

7. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 8 where the alpha-2-delta ligand is [(1R,5R,6S)-6-(Aminomethyl)bicyclo[3.2.0]hept-6-yl]acetic acid

8. (Previously presented) A method of treating premature ejaculation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an alpha-2-delta ligand, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, to a patient in need of such treatment.

9. (Previously amended) A method as claimed in claims 3-8, where administration is on an as needed basis.

10. (Cancel)

11. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical product comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an alpha-2-delta ligand and a therapeutically effective amount of apomorphine, a dopamine receptor antagonist, a serotonin receptor antagonist or modulator, an alpha-adrenergic receptor antagonist, an oxytocin receptor antagonist or a

vasopressin receptor antagonist as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of premature ejaculation.

12. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical product comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an alpha-2-delta ligand and a therapeutically effective amount of apomorphine, a dopamine receptor antagonist, a serotonin receptor antagonist or modulator, an alpha-adrenergic receptor antagonist, an oxytocin receptor antagonist or a vasopressin receptor antagonist as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of premature ejaculation where the alpha-2-delta ligand is as defined in any of claims 3-7.

13. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the alpha -2-ligand has a binding affinity of less than 100nM.

14. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein the alpha -2-ligand has a binding affinity of less than 100nM.

15. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the alpha -2-ligand has a binding affinity of less than 50nM.

16. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein the alpha -2-ligand has a binding affinity of less than 50nM.